Sampling Results for the Conditional Waiver for Irrigated Agriculture Monitoring Program – Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Quarterly Report – Activities From October 1, 2004 – December 31, 2004

Prepared for the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

By

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No sampling was conducted between October 1, 2004 and December 31, 2004. Activities during the third quarter included database development and management, preparation for dormant season sampling, and reporting. During this period of time, only two employees, Melissa Turner and Anja Wehrmann, and PI Johnson were working under the contract of the Agricultural Waiver program.

Database development and management

Melissa Turner is employed as the data base manager and she began to develop the database as data from irrigation season arrived at the Aquatic Ecosystems Analysis Laboratory (AEAL). As specified in the contract, data was to be entered in a SWAMP compatible database. She received SWAMP database training at Moss Landing, which included Chemical data entry, Toxicity data entry, Database QA, Lab templates and the data loader program. Following the training, she set up the database for the Agricultural Waiver program. This comprehended creating and entering project ID's, lab/site codes and seasonal codes and updating the methods, equipment and site descriptions. Quality Assurance data was inserted into the database together with the SWAMP QA codes. In addition Melissa entered data from the field sheets (site lat/longs, field descriptions, field parameters) into the database and designed new sheets for the Dormant Season sampling. Additionally, she created documents to help with filling in the field sheets properly in the field. Further preparation for the Dormant Season sampling included the creation of new site codes, site descriptions as well as new equipment codes. Anja Wehrmann entered data from the field sheets into the database.

Preparation for dormant season sampling

Position descriptions were prepared and filed with the University in preparation for advertising and interviewing candidates. Positions were advertised and the interview process for the Junior Specialist positions started in mid November 2004. Fourteen people were hired and started working on the 20th of December 2004. During the last week of December the new employees participated in a Driver Safety and Regional Board safety class and a variety of field training sessions. Teams were established for sampling and all teams were provided with SOPs and other materials to read and reference during sampling.

Discharge equipment was ordered from Rickly Scientific, bottles and vials from Fisher Scientific and miscellaneous sampling equipment from Ben Meadows. All supplies were inventoried and prepared for sampling. Equipment from Rickly was found to be defective and was returned for replacement. A. Wehrmann and PI Johnson collaborated with Regional Board staff to develop the list of sites and monitoring constituents for the dormant season sampling.

Reporting

The first quarterly report was prepared during the second quarter. A. Wehrmann and PI Johnson were responsible for producing the report. A. Wehrmann compiled the data and necessary information for the first quarterly report and wrote the outline for the report. PI Johnson authored the quarterly report.